

Communities & Populations, Foraging, Stable Isotopes, Food Webs, Paleoecology, Niches

Mission Statement:

To do great science with friends

Who we are:

Our lab is located in the School of Natural Sciences at the University of California, Merced, nestled just west of Yosemite National Park in the Central Valley. Our primary aim is simple: to understand how and why biological populations and communities behave as they do. The answers can be complex, and it is unraveling this complexity that motivates our research.

What we do:

We use a combination and theoretical and empirical approaches to explore the complexities of biological systems over multiple spatial and temporal scales. Although our work covers a lot of ground, some major questions that we care about include:

- What drives the structure and functioning of food webs over ecological & evolutionary timescales?
- What are the primary ecological/environmental drivers that constrain consumerresource relationships?
- How do behavioral tradeoffs impact population dynamics?
- How did the arrival of grassland-savanna mosaics impact mammalian evolution and ecology?
- What role does spatial complexity play in determining population and community dynamics?
- How can we use stable isotope data to understand/reconstruct population-level processes in both modern and paleontological ecosystems?

Become a part of the lab!

If you are interested in any of these general problems, we want to hear from you. If there are other things that you are passionate about, but think that you would be a good fit in our lab group, we want to hear from you. If you love to learn, work on interesting problems, and are intensely curious about the world around you, then we want to hear from you!

Undergraduate, Masters, & Ph.D. positions available starting 1/1/2016

For more information, contact: jdyeakel@gmail.com Visit: http://jdyeakel.github.io